

YUKISAMA SCANS



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TAKAHASHI MIYUKI

人斬り
MUSASHI #9

3

MUSASHI #9

volume 3



by Takahashi Miyuki



MUSAHI
20-2000-000000



TACHIBANA
SHINGO
20-2000-000000



LLOYD

The story so far

The history of mankind has been one of wars. Resistance fighters would have doomed the planet to annihilation were it not for Ultimate Blue, a secret organization, also known as "The other United Nations," and its team of super agents. Musashi, Ritsuko Hime, or Shirogata Rose, is she is known, is one of them.

A politician crawling against gun smuggling is not downed by a villain's bullet. A teen who unwittingly "discovered" the full scope comes to a similar end. The audience passes into the hands of Tachibana Shingo, the dead don't beat Hime. But, with the audience comes the start of the gun who gives "White Dragon" and its assassin, Lomon Musashi reveals her true gender to Shingo to gain his trust. Together, they attempt to uncover and succeed in securing the audience needed to destroy the White Dragon. But, until Ritsuko Hime is destroyed and the West of any leverage neutralized, Musashi must stand guard. However, things spin into a more complex web than Musashi could ever have imagined.



The history of mankind has
been one of wars. Race.
Religion. Philosophy.
The causes are untold.

The combatants have their own
justifications, but on occasion,
some create a volatile
situation that threatens to
destroy the world.

Ultimate Blue.

An organization shrouded in
complete secrecy. Also known
as "The other United Nations."
Nobody knows when it was
created. Nobody knows
where it is based.

The Blue of the Seas.
The Blue of the Skies.
The Blue of the Earth.

The last line of defense against chaos.



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A Tiger in the Dark, part 3

MUSASHI #9

3



USE
COULD
BE...
UM... JUST
TALK TO
YOU FOR A
SECOND?

UM...
COULD
BE...ER...
ER...

CHECK OUT
THOSE
LIPS
FROM
THAT
MOUTH!
MAYBE...
MAYBE...

USE, THERE'S
SOMETHING...
UM... REALLY
IMPORTANT
WFD USE TO
TELL YOU

IT WON'T
TAKE LONG,
PROMISE!

THIS IS JUST
PEOPLE!!
SHINOBUKI,
HEAR THE OUT,
MAN!

THEY
COULD BE
BETTER ONE
YEA!

There's no
frigger way
you put in the
know!

THAT'S
ALL.

REALLY.

IT'S...
JUST THAT
SHINOBUKI
MOVES IN
NEXT POOL,
YOU KNOW?
AND SO, YOU
KNOW, WE
SOULD GO IN
THE SAME
DIRECTION AND
ALL, YOU
KNOW?

You'd never believe
it, but Shinobuki's
a secret agent for
some major
good-guy
organization or
something.

I bet ya there ain't
nobody normal
about Shinobuki.

Like, Shinobuki's
here to protect my
butt, yeah?

Hard to
take,
yeah?
I don't
even
believe it
is true.

Supposedly,
one of nine
wackos who
can change
the world.

Don't look
like Bond
here would
even kill a
bug.

Like, like
Kou's
is...

But that's
nothing compared to
the biggest
loop of 'em
all!

Like, Kou
is really
is...

SOBRY TO
SAVE KEM
YOU
RATING.

LET'S
GO.

But, what
kinda
wacko
gets a
codename
like
"MUSEUM"?











YOU DON'T GET IT, DO YOU?
I'M NOT GOING HOME UNLESS THERE'S A MIRACLE.





*Teaser: Japanese street gang member





THEN THERE
WILL BE NO
END TO IT.

IF I MAY
SAY SO, YOU
DON'T NEED
TO GET
INVOLVED
WITH
SOMETHING
THIS TRIVIAL.

WE CAN
DEAL
WITH THIS.

I'M
ON
IT.

THERE ARE
ALSO SEVERAL
PLACES I NEED
CONTACTED.

YES?

NUMBER
197

YOU'RE
NOW IN
CHARGE OF
PROTECTING
SHINGO.



THE MAIN MISSION
MAY BE
COMPROMISED IF
THE SITUATION HERE
ISN'T RESOLVED.

SHINGO'S
PERSONALITY
CAN BE
TROUBLE-
SOME.



AFTER THIS, THEY
WILL NEVER WANT
TO DEAL WITH
ME.

AND THIS
WILL BE
FINAL.



I
KNOW.

SO
TAKE IT
EASY ON
THEM!

NO
KILLING!

LOOK! DON'T
GET RADICAL,
OKAY?
THEY'RE STILL
A BUNCH OF
NORMAL
GUYS!



NOT TO
WORRY. BUT,
I NEED YOU
TO STAY AT
HOME.

I WILL HAVE
OUR PEOPLE
LOOK AFTER
YOU.



That is one
of the nine.
That is *Musashi*!
That is not to be
mess'd with!

You booze
don't have a
clue what
you're up
against!

Like I
I'm not
supposed
to worry?
Musashi!

You
could
Teamers!

KOJI,
WAIT!

WAIT!

I'M
POUNCE! THAT
PUNISH--
EVEN IF IT
MEANS DOIN'
TIME!

NO
BODYBALL
MESSGS WITH
US AND GETS
AWAY WITH IT!

SHUT UP,
YOU
STUPID
GON!

WHAT ARE YOU
GOING TO DO TO
KIM? YOU
PROMISED YOU
WOULDN'T TOUCH
HIM!

THAT'S
WHY I
GAVE YOU
HIS NAME!

I'LL SHOW YOU
WHAT PUNISH!
HAPPENS WHEN
YOU MESS WITH
US!

Mission 8: A Winter's Tale, Part 2

I'LL
SHOW
YOU!

I AM
GOING TO
ANNUNCIATE
THEM.

Mission 8: A Winter's Tale, Part 3: End



NOT TO WORRY.

YOU DO WANT TO SEE MS. SAKAI, DO YOU?



DON'T WORRY IT, THOUGH. I'M GOING TO TEACH THEM A LITTLE LESSON.

SOMETIMES I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOU. ARE YOU BEING SHREET? OR ARE JUST YOU WORRIED?



Mission 8: A Winter's Tale, Part 2









HARD?
OK, YEAH?
THEN TELL ME WHAT YOU *DO* KNOW!











LET'S SAY I'VE COME IN HIS PLACE.

HE'S A PERSON WHO CAN'T IGNORE SITUATIONS LIKE THIS.

WELL... IT'S FOR A FRIEND?

IT'S NOT AS IF YOU EVER KNEW ME.

YOU'RE GETTING THIS INVOLVED JUST BECAUSE MY FRIENDS ASKED YOU TOO?

SO, WHY? IT'S NOT THAT CRAZY.

OH...

UNLESS THERE'S AN ARMY AND THE PRESIDENT?

YES.

UNLESS THERE'S A MIRACLE?

YES.

...I'M NOT GOING HOME.

BUT, LIKE I TOLD YOU...

THEN, LET'S SEE.

BESIDES, I DON'T HAVE A FATHER THAT WORRIES ABOUT ME!

YOU DON'T KNOW WHEN TO QUIT, BUT YES!

EVEN IF YOUR FATHER IS WORRIED SICK?

EVEN THEN?



You're not my father!



I'M FINE.

BUT, WHAT ABOUT YOU?

IT'S COLD, SO YOU'D BETTER PUT THAT ON.

YOU DID LEAVE YOUR COAT BEHIND.

WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?

WHAT?

WHY?

THIS IS A GOOD Vantage POINT.

YOU CAN SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING BELOW.

IS
MOMOKO
SAFE?!

THERE'S A
FATHER WHO
DESPERATELY
WANTS TO
SAVE HIS
DAUGHTER ON
THE OTHER
END.

LISTEN.

THAT'S...
THAT'S...

WORK TO
THAT MAN
IS MORE
IMPORTANT
THAN
FAMILY!

THAT'S
POINTLESS!

A MONSTER
LIKE THAT
WOULD
NEVER LET
HIS
COMPANY
GO UNDER!

YOUR
FATHER HAS
NOT
CALLED THE
POLICE.

THE COPS
ARE
SERIOUS
ABOUT THIS
SORT OF...

YOU'RE
CRAZY! YOU
ARE SO
NAIVE!

I'VE GOT
EVERYTHING
YOU WANT!
I'LL BRING IT
WHEREVER
YOU WANT!

SO,
PLEASE!

LET MY
DAUGHTER
GO!

HELLO!
HELLO!

YOU'RE
LAME,
RIGHT?

HERE,
HERE.



YOUR
HOUSE.

WHAT
ARE
YOU
DOING?

WHO
ARE
YOU
PHONING?



RELAX. I'M
NOT
PHONING TO
HAVE YOUR
FATHER PICK
YOU UP.

DON'T!

DON'T!

TWO DAYS
AGO, YOU
WERE
KIDNAPPED.

I'M
PHONING
FOR A
DIFFERENT
REASON.



NATURALLY, I
AM THE
KIDNAPPER.

WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?



IT WILL
MEAN THE
DEATH OF
HIS
COMPANY,
THOUGH.

IF HE WERE TO
DO THAT,
YOU'D BE
RELEASED
UNHARMED.

THE RANSOM?
HE WANTS OVER
COMPLETE
CONTROL OF
HIS COMPANY--TO
ME.













YOU HAVE
TIME AND
ENERGY TO
SPARE.

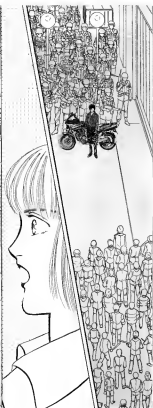
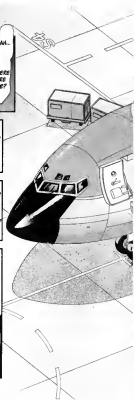
I'M SURE
MARINE
CORPS BOOT
CAMP SHOULD
BE A PIECE OF
CAKE.

YOU'RE
GOING TO THE
U.S.

YOU'RE
GOING TO
SO ON
THAT.

IT'S
A
SUB-
MARINE.











Mission 9: A Tiger in the Dark, Part 1





BUT, WE DO
THINK OF OUR
XXX

AND WE WILL
BRING HIM
DOWN

DON'T
WORRY.
WE'LL TAKE
CARE OF IT.

IT'S KNOWN AS
"THE OTHER UNITED
NATIONS." IT'S
DIFFICULT TO BE
FORMERLY, AND
DEEP-FORGOTTEN.

SIMPLES
PERHAPS,
BUT WE
TAKE THEM
SERIOUSLY.

WASH
ROSE~

SO,
THAT'S WHY
YOU'RE
COMING
LIKE DOGS.

ULTIMATE
BLUE?

AND
THAT ONE
IS NOT AN
ORDINARY
STUDENT.

THAT IS AN
AGENT FOR A
SECRET
ORGANIZATION
CALLED
"ULTIMATE
BLUE."

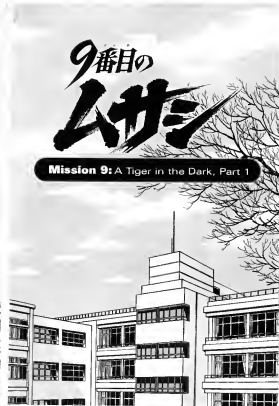
THE
PROBLEM
IS ANOTHER
STUDENT
WHO'S
ALWAYS BY
HIS SIDE.



IT'S HARD TO BE
SCARED OF
SOMETHING YOU
DON'T KNOW--
ULTIMATE BLUE
OR ANY OTHER
GROUP.

WE'RE
YOUNG,
UNKNOWN,
AND HAVEN'T
BEEN IN THE
BUSINESS
LONG ENOUGH
TO KNOW WHAT
WE'RE UP
AGAINST.

YOU'RE
RIGHT,
THOUGH.
THIS IS
RIGHT UP
OUR
ALLEY.



An unbelievable tale.





DROP DEAD,
YOU LOSERS!



ABOUT
NOW!

WHY I
HAVEN'T
REVEALED
JACK...



I'M NOT
INTERESTED IN
SOMETHING
THAT TRIVIAL.

I
KNOW.



THINK?

LET'S
DO.

LET'S DO.
WE NEED
TO TALK.



SHINDO,
WHAT'S
YOURS?

For somebody that can
change the world, that
sorta thing isn't high on
the list of priorities

She hasn't really
closed in that she's
a girl—
and I'm a guy.

Oh,
that's
right.

DON'T GET
TOO EXCITED
JUST
BECAUSE THE
TESTS ARE
OVER.

EXCITED?
JUST
I...I'M
NOT.



YOU'RE
ALL
RED.



WHAT?

WHAT?
RED?

IT'S 'CAUSE
NOW BUTTER IN
ALL OF A
SUDDEN, YOU
PEAKED ME
OUT.



IT WAS JUST ABOUT
WHAT IT'D BE LIKE
IF YOU WERE A
GIRL...

GHU!
GHU!
GHU!

WHAT
WAS
YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?



WELL I'D EXHIBIT
DATE GELS.

WELL
A GEL?
THAT'S
AN
INTERESTING
PREMIER.



BESIDES,
KON'S FAR
TOWARDS 'N
HE LOOKS.

SO, HE'S
BE THE GUY
AND YOU,
THE GEL.

LIKE, PURE,
DON'T TRY TO
GET OFF ON
SOMEONE
THAT CLOSE.
LIKE, GO AND
FIND A REAL
GIRLFRIEND!

OH! YOU CAN
LOOK
GIRLISH, BUT
THAT DON'T
CHANGE THE
FACT YOU'RE
STILL A GUY.

WATCH
OUT!

WHAT'S WRONG?
YOU'RE NOT
YOUR USUAL
SELF.

SHINOBU?

...IT'S A
MISTAKE.

IF THERE'S
SOMETHING
YOU'RE
UNCOMFORT-
ABLE WITH,
I'M WILLING
TO LISTEN.

FORGET
IT...IT'S...
NOTHING.

SHUT UP! IT AIN'T
GOT NOthin' TO
DO WITH YOU. ALL
YOU HAVE TO
WORRY ABOUT IS
YOUR ASSIGNMENT

ARE,
SHINOBU.

IF IT'S A
PRIVATE
MATTER,
I'M SORRY.

IT'S
JUST
THAT...

WE'VE
DETECTED
SOME
INTERWORLD
ACTIVITY.

Yeah,
yeah

NATURALLY, WE
ANTICIPATED
SOS WHEN HE
BROUGHT HIM
IN.

That's
why she
was here
in the
first
place...

Oh,
that's
right.

THE
WAITING
GAME IS
ALMOST
OVER.

A LOT OF
OBSERVATIONS
WEEP LONDON.
WE HAD TO WAIT
AND SEE WHO'D
MOVE FIRST.

I NEED YOU TO
START BRING
HIGH MOSES
YOUNG.

She's
always
with
me.

She's with
me the whole
time only
because...

No
wonder
the class
makes fun
of us.

THEY'VE GOTT
A TEAM INTO
ACTION. BUT, WE
DON'T KNOW ANY
SPECIFICS.

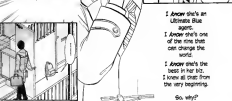
ALL
RIGHT.

I DID SAY
LONDON
WAS
INTER-
WORLD
CONNECTIONS.

IT'S
NOTHING.

ANYWAY,
WHAT DO
YOU
WANT?

YOU HAVEN'T
BEEN
YOURSELF
RECENTLY.
HOW COME?



I know she's an Ultimate Blue agent.

I know she's one of the nine that can change the world.

I know she's the best in her biz. I knew all that from the very beginning.

So, why?



IF IT'S JUST ME, I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF.

LEAVE ME ALONE!

YOU'RE A MAGANOT THAT ONLY THINKS IN TERMS OF MISSIONS.

YOU'RE "MAGANOT." AGENT NUMBER NINE.





"NEW-
GOWNERS?"
WE'LL WAIT
AND SEE
WHAT THEY
DO.



ALWAYS.

NUMBER
19, ARE
YOU
READY?

THEY NEED
THE MAN
THESE.
UNFORTU-
NATELY, THEY
WENT ON
ANY OF OUR
FILES.

MEL GAGNE,
VAND
GREENBERG,
LAW WEREL.

HOW
MANY
GAMES TO
JAPANESE?



PROBA-
BLY.

TAKING THEM
DOWN WILL
ALSO SET A
GOOD
EXAMPLE.



AS OF NOW,
WE SWITCH
TO
OPERATION
"A NOISE IN
THE GABLE."

GOOD.



YES.



IS
THAT
YOU,
NUMBER
19?



SHINGO WILL
BE CAPER IF
THEY'RE
ELIMINATED.



THEY NEED
LONDON TO DO
THEIR NEXT MOVE.
THEY'RE
PROBABLY
FIGURED
LONDON HAS
TALKED.



THE GROUP
MAKING THE
MOST NOISE
IS A CHINESE
TRAD, WHITE
STEADON.

WHO'S
MAKING
MOVES?



I don't think I could handle that.

I don't wanna see her go.

She's only here on a mission.

But, on the other hand, what's the point in accepting it? That ain't gonna change things either. I'm still gonna feel like dirt.

As soon as it's over, I become just another file to be shelved somewhere. End of story.

Damn! Why here? Why me?



Shimazaki.

I can't...
I really can't take this anymore.

I really... really...

...like you



I had a feeling this would happen.

Probably from when I found out how good looking she could be.

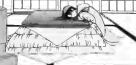


SIGH

Maybe it'd be easier if I just accepted it.

I was fooling myself, being myself, she's just a good friend.

But, maybe it ain't going to change a thing.





Besides, I
do get all
mouney and
say I could
take care
of myself.



SMART.
REALLY SMART.
MEANS ONE.



DOFS

Anyway,
I'm sick of
being the
"girl" here.



HEHE

BLINK

BLINK

WE NEED
TO TALK.



WHY AM I
BEING SO
STUPID?!
I'LL JUST
TELL HER
PLAT OUT!
SHE'S ALWAYS
WITH ME, SO
THERE'S A
FINE PRESENT
CHANGE
THINGS WILL
WORK OUT.



SHINJI!
ABOUT IT IS
ONLY GONNA
MAKE IT
WORSE!

AW,
SCREW
IT!



Life can be such
a drag.

I don't have
a woman's
chance in
hell.

Not.



NEVER
GO OUT
ALONE.



H
U
M
P
H



I'll talk to
her about all
this
tomorrow.



But you know
what? I feel
better now
that I got it
out of my
system.



It should
be okay.
I'm only
gonna get
a walk.



Yeah.
That'll be
best.







KA-CHIAK





THINK ABOUT WHO YOU ARE. WHAT YOU ARE.

JUST THINK FOR A SECOND.

LOOK!

I AM A GUY.



DON'T LET THAT BOYSEE YOU!

I WOULDN'T EVEN TAKE GAZE OF MYSELF.

THEY WERE FEELS. ORDINARY PEOPLE DON'T STAND A CHANCE AGAINST THEM.

I DIDN'T LISTEN TO YOUR ADVICE AND LOOK WHERE IT GOT ME.

IF YOU WOULDN'T COME ALONG IT'D HAVE BEEN TOTALLY SCREWED.



SHINOBU?

WHAT A DIS-GRACE.



THEN WHY COULD YOU?!

IT'S UNDERSTAND-ABLE THAT THERE WAS NOTHING YOU COULD--



I'M AS OLD AS YOU! I'M ALSO A GUY! GET IT? A GUY!

I'M A HUMAN BEING JUST LIKE YOU! NOW COME YOU SAW, BUT I CAN'T?









SHE
DELIBERATELY
IGNORED THE TEEN
SO THAT HE COULD
GET AWAY.

SUPPOSE SHE
SHOT THE TREE
AND KIDDED
US FROM
GETTING AWAY.
THE BOY
WOULD HAVE
BEEN IN
SERIOUS
DANGER.

PUT, NOT A
SINGLE
PERSON DID.

WE'RE IN THE
MIDDLE OF A
EPIDEMIOLOGICAL
AREA.
SOMEONE
SHOULD HAVE
COME OUT
WITH ALL THAT
SHOOTING.

AND
HAVEN'T
YOU
NOTICED
SOME-
THING
ELSE?



NO...
NO...
NO...



HE WAS STANDING
NEXT TO A CAR
GETTING SHOT UP
AND HE COULDN'T
EVEN HAVE A
SCRATCH.

DID YOU
EVEN
NOTICE HE
WASN'T
FRET?

THAT
WASN'T A
MATTER OF
LIFE.

SHE
PROBABLY
KNOWS WHICH
WAY EACH OF
THE BULLETS
WOULD
DISOCCUR ALL
THE TIME SHE
WAS FIRED.

I DON'T
KNOW HOW
THEY DID IT.

PUT, WHAT KIND
OF ORGANIZA-
TION CAN GET AN
ENTIRE
COMMUNITY TO
UP AND GO
SOMEWHERE?



LAM
LAWRENCE
THAT ONE
PRETTY
GOOD.

PLACES LIKE
THAT HAVE THE
NATURAL GAS
TANKS
OUTSIDE.

HOW. HE DID
THAT PLACE
REAL GOOD.



NOT A
SINGLE
BULLET
MET THE
TREE.

BUT, WHAT A
STUPID SHOT.
GREAT GUN,
LOUSY SHOT.

HEY, CHILL
OUT, MELL.
TOSKAY WAS
SORT OF A
GENTLEMAN
CALL, OKAY?
SO, I REALLY
WASN'T BEING
CARELESS.
ALL
RIGHT?

YANG, YOU
SHOULDN'T BE
SO PLEASED.
YOUR
BLINDNESS
ALMOST GOT
US.



YOU ARE THE
STUPID SHOT,
YANG.







Mission 9: A Tiger in the Dark, Part 2



YOU CAN'T
CONTACT
ANYONE AT
THE TOP?

YES.
I CAN'T GET
THROUGH--
NO MATTER
WHAT I TRY.

MAYBE
THEY ALL
PULLED A
STUNNER.

BEATS ME
AS TO
WHAT'S
GOING ON.

THE BOSSSES
OF WHITE
DRAGON HAVE
MORE THAN
ENOUGH TO
DO.

WHICH IS
FINE.
WE'LL BE
ABLE TO
DO THINGS
THE WAY
WE WANT.

WANG, YOU
EVEN
SLEEP IN
THAT HAT
OF YOURS?



I felt like dirt. Here it
was, all my fault. All
because I couldn't hack
being protected. All
because I couldn't keep
my feelings for her in
check.



Shinobu shielded
me from the blast,
so she was hurt
pretty bad.

It was something
ridiculously
obvious.

All that stuff was
going through my
head, but I only had
one clear thought.
"Gee, her blood is
red--just like mine."





OH, I DO.
I DO.



YOU PROBABLY
WANT RELATIVES
ACTING AS YOUR
LEGAL
GUARDIANS
AROUND HERE,
DON'T YOU?
IF YOU WANT, I CAN
GIVE YOU
THREE.

DON'T YOU
SEE YOU
LOST BOTH
PARENTS
WHEN YOU
WERE
YOUNGEST?

NAH, IT
WORKED OUT
PRETTY. WHERE
HAS I GONNA
GO, ANYWAY?

AND BESIDES,
MY
SCHOOL IS
CLOSEST
TO HERE.

SOORY WE
ENDED UP
FORCING
YOU TO STAY
THE NIGHT,
MR.
TACHIBANA.

I CALLED
TO THEM
OVER THE
PHONE,
AND THEY
WERE
COOL.

NAH, I
DON'T
WANA
TROUBLE
THEM.

SHINJI.



ALL THANKS
TO YOU,
LAIL.

THERE'S
NOBODY AS
GOOD AS YOU
WHEN IT
COMES TO
EXPLOSIVES.

THAT
COULD
WORK OUT
WELL IN
THE NEXT
PHASE.

OF
COURSE.

ONE
SHOULD'VE
BEEN HERE
EARLY IN
LAST NIGHT'S
EXPLO-
SION.

THANKS.

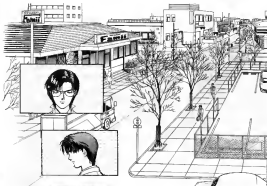


YOU SEEM
TO HAVE A
GOOD
IDEA AS TO
WHAT
YOU'RE
DOING.

MEL, YOU
RUN IT
FROM HERE
ON.









UC-11

Oh, that's right.

She is different—and not just because of her hair.



HEY.

SCHOOL STARTED A WHILE AGO.



Her expression never changes.

Like a statue's.



She was pretty afraid to start with.

But at least she had a smile for me.



Probably.



All my fault, right?



WE'RE NOT
GONNA DO
FOR YOU OR
NOTHING.

CHILL
OUT!



YOU
BOY?

DOES ANYONE IN
YOUR GANG
GO TO JONAH
RIGHT?

IN FACT, WE'VE
GOT A GOOD
DEAL FOR YOU.



WANT THAT
THREE MORE
AND YOU
GOT?

DON'T
SAY
ANYTHING!

WHAT DO
YOU WANT
WITH US?
WHO ARE
YOU?



I WOULDN'T
DO THAT
FAR.
BUT, I
CAN SORT
OF HANDLE
THINGS.



YOU DON'T
NEED TO BE
SO NOBLESSE.
THERE'S A
SMALL
MATTER I'D
LIKE TO
CLEAR UP.



DOES
EVERYONE
ANSWER TO
YOU
AROUND
HERE?



YOU
THE
ONE?
WHAT
IS IT?



YOUR
SELF-
PROTECT?



CHIKA, YOU
STAY OUTTA
THIS, ALL
RIGHT?



TOSHINO, WHAT ARE
YOU DOING?



IF THAT'S
ALL RIGHT
WITH YOU.



SURE
SURE.



THAT'S
RIGHT.

THEN GOING
YOUR
SELF-PROTECT
ALONE.

SHE'S WITH
A
CHINESE
TRAP.

A
MOVIE.
IT'S THE
TITLE OF
AN OLD
MOVIE.



WHAT'S
SHE
TALKING
ABOUT?

THE YEAR
OF THE
DRAGON?

CINE CENE



YOU GET
INTO A
SCAMP OF
SOMEBODY?

WHAT'S UP
BETWEEN
YOU AND
KON?



THEN
WHAT?

YOU GUYS
AIN'T
BORN
TALENT.

AIN'T
NOTHIN' LIKE
THAT.



THAT'S IT. DO
IT RIGHT AND
YOU'LL GET
DOUBLE
THAT.

BUT, WE
WANT IT
DONE
ONE WAY.

WHE LIFE
DISCOM-
FORTABLE?
THAT'S IT?



THERE'S
SOMEBODY
WE DISLIKE
AT THAT
SCHOOL.
WE'D LIKE TO
MAKE LIFE
DISCOMFORT-
ABLE FOR THAT
FEDERAL.

WE'RE
NOT
GOING TO
HAVE
THEM DO
ANYTHING
EXTENSIVE.

PERFECT.
WE'D LIKE
TO
"AGEEON"
THEM FOR
A WHILE.



WHO ARE
YOU?

IF,
HOWEVER, YOU
DECIDE TO GET
HALFWAY THROUGH,
YOURSELF AND
MAYBE EVEN INTO SOME
PROBLEMS OF HIS
OWN.



THE YEAR
OF THE
DRAGON.





Agent number
nine for
Ultimate Blue.
Codename—
Musashi.

So, what if I
tell her how I
feel about
her.

I'm just
being an
unwitted
nukenec.

I'm nothing to
her.
*Absolutely
nothing.*



I knew this
was going to
happen from
the very
beginning.













HE AIN'T EVEN
LOOKIN' THIS
WAY.

YEAH, EIGHT!
LOOK AT
SHINOSU LOOK
AT NOW DOWN
HE IS!

NO.
IT MUST BE
YOUR
IMAGINATION.

SOMETHING'S
DEFINITELY UP
BETWEEN YOU
TWO. YOU GUYS
NEED THIS
CLOSE AND NOW
LOOK AT YOU.

IT
REALLY
GETS
YOUR
THINKIN'
DUPED.

WELL,
SEE...

WANT
YOU TO
POP
ON.
MAN.

THEN WHAT
DO YOU
WANT ME
TO POP?



LIFE. DID
YOU
REALLY
BELIEVE
THAT
RANDOM?

SHINOSUKA, A
GUESS YEAH,
EIGHT. LOOK
NOW TOWARD
HE WAS.



SO, IT
MIGHT
AN ACT.
THAT
INJURY'S
REAL.



YOU AIN'T
DUNNIN' ON
ALL
CYLINDERS IF
YOU DO.



SHE'S WORKING
BY HERSELF...
AND THAT CAN'T
BE RIGHT.

NO. WE
CAN'T BE
SURE.



BEFORE
WE
HE
THEM
FOR
REAL.

ALL EIGHT,
HEL. MAYBE
WE'LL
MAKE
ANOTHER
COURTESY
CALL.



WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE HE MEANT?

"EVEN WITHOUT ME?"

WHAT WAS ALL THAT ABOUT? AREN'T THEY SUPPOSED TO BE ON BAD TERMS?

ONE MORE THING.

IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!

HEY! KOW!

WE'RE GOING.

YEAH.

A nuisance, huh?

That's hard to say.

Especially if the pub is that blurry.

I wanted to show off to her.

I wanted her to see me as a guy.

If anybody knows I'm being a pain in the butt, it's me.

Which is why I went berserk.



AND THAT'S WHEN YOU SHOWED UP.

ON TOP OF THAT, HIS BEST FRIEND WAS LIKE A BROTHER TO HIM AND THEN HE GOT HIMSELF PUNISHED.

I TELL YA, KOW, IT WAS HARD WATCHING HIM GO TO PIECES.

YOU KNOW AS WELL AS I DO THAT HE DON'T HAVE FAMILY.

YEAH, THANKS TO YOU, HE'S A LOT BETTER.

TO BE HONEST, WE WERE SORT OF RELIEVED, YOU KNOW?

HE STARTED BEING HIS OLD SELF-- SLOWLY BUT SURELY.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT MENT DOWN BETWEEN YOU, BUT I THINK IT'S KILLING HIM AT THIS POINT.

CAN'T YOU DO SOMETHING FOR HIM?

GET WHAT I'M SAYIN'?

YOU'RE ALL THAT'S LEFT TO HIM RIGHT NOW.

EVERYTHING WILL WORK OUT. WITH FRIENDS LIKE YOU, HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT.

WELL, I WOULDN'T PUT IT THAT WAY, BUT...

SO, YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT HIM THEN?

EVEN WITHOUT ME.



HONG KONG

IT'S
TIME.

THEN,
LET'S
GO.

GOOD.

IS
EVERYONE
IN PLACE?

YES,
EVERY-
BODY'S
ALREADY
AT THE
WHITE
DEADON'S
LAIK

Mission 9: A Tiger in the Dark, Part 3





TOKYO



WE JUST HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT WHAT WE'RE SUPPOSED TO DO.

THEY'RE THEM. WE'RE US.



THE HELL'S HAPPENING TO WHITE DRAGON?

THERE'S NOBODY THERE! EVEN HEAD-QUARTERS AIN'T ANSWERING!

WHO CARES?



MEL?

BUT, MEL!



STOP WORRYING ABOUT IT. THEY'LL CALL US.

MEL!



I'LL BE RIGHT THERE.



THEY WANT TO TALK.

YOU HAVE VISITORS IN THE LOBBY.



ULTIMATE BLUE CAN INFLUENCE ENTIRE NATIONS.

AND, EVERYTHING ELSE ABOUT WHAT IS CALLED "THE OTHER UNITED NATIONS"...



...IS TRUE.

ARE YOU MEMBERS OF WHITE DRAGON?



WE HAVE COME FOR YOU.



BUT, NOW
THAT YOU
HAVE,
WHAT IS IT?

I'M VERY
UNHAPPY
ABOUT YOU
COMING
HERE.

I'VE PULLED
SOME WEAK
STRENGTHS IN MY
TIME, BUT I
DON'T WANT MY
BOYS GETTING
CAUGHT UP IN
CHINESE TRICKS.

IT'S LIKE
SHE SAID.
WE'RE OUT.



WE JUST
WANT OUT.
YOU'LL GET
YOUR MONEY
BACK.

WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?

CHIEF!

WE DON'T
WANA GO
ALONG
ANYMORE.



ARE
YOU...
THAT...
THAT...



WHAT
IS IT?



DON'T YOU
STAY UP
ON ME,
STINK.

CAN'T GET
IN TOUCH?
THAT AS
ODD.



THEY'LL TAKE
US
SERIOUSLY IF
WE DO THIS
RIGHT.

IT JUST
MEANS
THEY'RE TOO
RUSH TO
DEAL WITH
US.



WHAT?



STARE
ME.

YOU MAKE A
GOOD HIGH
SCHOOL
BOY.

YOU LOOK
GOOD,
THOUGH.

IT'S
NOTHING,
REALLY.



WHAT
WAS
ALL
THAT
ABOUT?

HE SAYS HE
CAN'T GET IN
TOUCH WITH
ANYONE IN
HONG KONG.

DON'T WORRY
ABOUT...
HE'S BEING
PARANOID, AS
USUAL...



SLOW

WHEN'S THIS ALL GOING TO END?

WAIT! WAIT A MINUTE!

SO, I THINK IT'D BE A GOOD IDEA NOT TO CHANGE YOUR MIND.

YOUR SHELFRIEND WILL BE OUR GUEST UNTIL THIS IS OVER.

VERY SOON.



MAYBE HE SHOULD DROP IN ON HIM.

I WONDER WHAT'S WRONG. SHINGO AIN'T BEEN HERE FOR THREE DAYS NOW.

I WONDER IF HE'S CAUGHT A COLD.

LIKE, WHERE? HIS APARTMENT IS TOAST, REMEMBER?

OK, RIGHT?

153



DID YOU HONESTLY THINK THAT HE'D SAY, "OH, DEAR," AND LET YOU GO?

HOW DID YOU BECOME THE BOSS BEING SO STUPID?



I THINK YOUR SHELFRIEND SHOULD STAY WITH US FOR A WHILE.



NO NEED TO YELL.

WHAT DO YOU NAME?

TOAST?



YOU WERE PROBABLY THINKING HE WOULDN'T TRY ANYTHING IN A HOTEL LOBBY.

WELL,

I THINK SO.



HE'LL FLY UP THE ENTIRE LOBBY--AND YOU WITH IT. AND HE'LL WALK AWAY WITHOUT A SCRATCH.

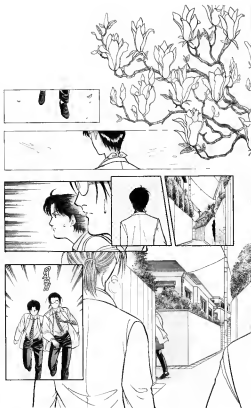
SO AHEAD. SEE WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU MAKE ANY TROUBLE.

NOBODY IS AS GOOD AS HE IS WHEN IT COMES TO EXPLOSIONS.

THAT'S ALL.

152







She's untouchable.

Maybe
it's
better
not
to
bring
it
up
again.



Yeah...

Maybe...

Maybe I should just
give it up.

That's just
the way
she is.

So close, yet so far.

It'd be better if I just ditched
this elementary obsession.



YEAH, BUT
HE'S FRIGGIN'
TOUGH FOR A
PRETTY BOY.

HE ONLY
USED ONE
HAND, TOO.



THANKS TO
HIM, WE
WERE MADE
TO LOOK
LIKE REAL
DOGS.

BUNK! THAT
LITTLE
SHINOBU
SHOT.



WHAT?

YET, YOU
GOT HURT.

I'LL BE
SEVERELY
DISCIPLINED
FOR THIS.

MAKE
SURE
YOU
COPY
THEM.

HERE ARE
TODAY'S
NOTES. YOU
CAN'T
AFFORD TO
FALL
BEHIND.



THAT WAS
MY FAULT,
TOO.

IT'S MY
MISSION
TO
PROTECT
YOU.



THAT'S... THE REAL
REASON A PERSON
WENT INTO MENTAL
HOSPITAL.



I missed my
chance to say
sorry again.



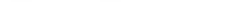
And I haven't
even
apologized for
ZWE.

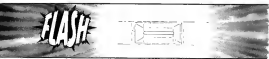


She told me not to get
involved, but I got
involved anyway.

And look where it got me.

I'm friggin' hopeless.





I've gotta forget about everything.

Gonna start from scratch as if nothin' happened.

Duties and obligations.

Yeah. It's exactly as you put it.

Shinogaki's a good buddy.

That's the best way to play it.

YEAH, YEAH, AGENT MUSAASHI. LIFE MUST BE NICE.

RIGHT ON!
SHINOGAKI

WHAT'S GOING ON?

WHAT'S WITH THE GROWD?

If I do that, everything will be smooth—just like now.

Everything will be back to normal.

These buttheads again!

SHE WERE TOOK ARE TIME.

SO, THE LADY FINALLY SHOWS.

MAYBE YOU SHOULD BE RESTING STILL.

SHINOGAKI, ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE ALL RIGHT?

EVEN THE DOC SAID SCHOOL SHOULD BE OKAY, DIDN'T HE?

SO, STOP WORRYIN'.

PURE...

IT'S PART OF MY DUTIES.

AND, I'M NOT A KID, OKAY? YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO COME TO THE HOSPITAL, TOO.

LOOK, IT WASN'T ANYTHING SERIOUS.

YOU HADN'T HEARD THE RESULTS YET.







ARE YOU
SATISFIED?

Library

IT'S
OBVIOUS.

CAN'T YOU SEE
I'M WORRIED
ABOUT MY
PEOPLE?

YOU!
WHY ARE
YOU
HERE?

OH? BUT,
I'M HERE.

WE HAVE YOUR
SUSPENDER! DON'T YOU
CARE ABOUT
WHAT HAPPENS
TO HER?

THAT
CAN'T
BE
RIGHT!

BUT...
BUT...
BUT...

SEE, YOU
PRIGGIN'
LOSER?!

W
H
Y?

BUT...
BUT...
THE
PHOTO...

IT'S
WHAT
I
FOUN...

HERE

YOU
WANT
US
TO
PROP-
EVERY-
THING?
NOW?

WHAT?
HELLO?
TODAY?

IT'S A
LOT
BETTER.

SEE? LOOK
AT MY ARM.





YES.
BEFORE
THEY
SHOWED UP
AT YOUR
APARTMENT.



THERE
WAS A
SWITCH.

THE
MOMENT.



I
WOULDN'T
IF I HAD
YOU.



THEY'RE
MY
DOUBLES.

SO, THEY'RE
VERY,
VERY
GOOD.



THEY'RE
MY
DOUBLES.



THEY WERE PLAYING WITH US FROM THE VERY START.

NAH, NAH. IT WAS NOTHING.

YOU WEREN'T SUPPOSED TO HAVE GOTTEN HURT. I'M SORRY.

ME? AH, NO, NO, NO.

ARE YOU ANGRY?

But, wait a second.

If they made the switch before they came to the apartment...

That...that...that means...



ARE YOU SURE, HIAKARU MIKE?



BOOOOOPS



WHERE WERE YOU THEN?

JUST ONE THING.

FORGET IT, VAND. EVEN YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO TELL. WE DON'T STAND A CHANCE.



IT'S OBVIOUS.



I WENT TO WIFE OUT YOUR ORGANIZATION.

IN KONG KONG.



LET'S GO, SHINGO.



WRITE REASON NO LONGER EXISTS.

THERE'S NOTHING FOR YOU TO RETURN.





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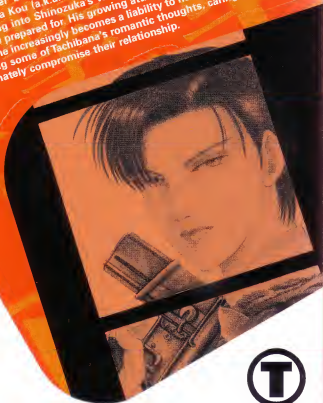


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